

Dear concerned Berkeley students,

As news of this investigation went public via the Daily Californian last night after a routine meeting of the Constitutional and Procedural Review Committee of the ASUC Senate, it became apparent to my office that several key issues needed to be cleared up.

First, the concept of innocent until proven guilty is a sacrosanct and key part of the American justice system- one that applies to the ASUC. Senator Rosemary Hua is a highly respected member of the Berkeley community and her leadership and excellence can be and has been attested to countless times since news of this investigation spread. She has been fully cooperating with this investigation and is intent on disproving these allegations; to that end, she has provided my office with all the requested documentation. Although the Daily Californian plays an important role on our campus in keeping members of our community accountable to each other, it is important to remain mindful that, especially in this Internet age, we all need to work together in good faith and with respect and understanding for each other.

Second, this investigation is a routine function of the Attorney General's Office. It is tasked to my office to investigate alleged violations of the ASUC Constitution and the By-Laws and to determine if there is any possible evidence of a violation before deciding to end the investigation or to move forward with charges before the Judicial Council. It is crucial to emphasize that no conclusions can be drawn from any investigation, including this one, other than the fact that an inquiry was filed with my office concerning the possible violation of ASUC rules and regulations. Thus, my office launched a preliminary investigation to determine if there was any validity to these allegations and, per our Constitutional obligations, reported our ongoing activities to the Constitutional and Procedural Review Committee.

Finally and most importantly, this investigation is now closed with the determination that Senator Rosemary Hua did not commit any violations of the ASUC Constitution or the By-Laws. In the course of our investigation, my office determined that the original trigger for the investigation, an inquiry submitted to my office regarding possible violations of ASUC rules, was premised on inaccurate information based on several misunderstandings. The documentation that Senator Hua provided to my office confirms all elements of her story: that no ASUC funds were used for her assignment, that she paid out of her own pocket for the survey service, and that the account she established with said survey service was a personal one that any member of the public could create. I wish to extend my sincere and personal apologies to Senator Hua that what should have been a discreet and routine investigation quickly devolved into a public humiliation. My office again wishes to emphasize that our investigation is now closed, that Senator Hua fully cooperated with us in a very timely and efficient manner, and that she is fully innocent of any of these allegations.

Most sincerely,

Hinh Tran

Attorney General

Associated Students of the University of California